



# BRIDGING THE GAP

# LAW

Course Title	Examination Board & Web Address
BTEC Applied Law	Edexcel

### Units/Topics Studied:

Unit 1 – Dispute Solving in Civil Law

Unit 2 – Investigating Aspects of Criminal Law and the Legal System

### Bridging Task

#### Part One:

Find out the answers to the following questions

1. Who makes the law in England and Wales?
2. What is the difference between civil law and criminal law?
3. The standard of proof in criminal and civil cases is different. What is it in each?
4. What is the name of the highest court in the English hierarchy?
5. What is a 'statute'?
6. What does the 'R' stand for in criminal cases e.g. R v White (1910)
7. How many people sit on a jury?
8. What is a 'QC'?
9. What does 'ratio decidendi' mean?
10. What are 'compensatory damages'?

Useful websites:

[www.Theguardian.com](http://www.Theguardian.com)

[www.sixthformlaw.info](http://www.sixthformlaw.info)

[www.thetimes.co.uk](http://www.thetimes.co.uk)

[www.cps.gov.uk](http://www.cps.gov.uk)

#### Part Two: Choose ONE of the following tasks to complete

#### 1.The Court Hierarchy

Produce an A3 size poster illustrating and explaining the Court Hierarchy in England and Wales. Include a description of each court, what kind of cases they hear, what type of judge sits. Have a walk around Wigan and find out what courts we have here. Take photographs and use them as examples. Make it as eye-catching and interesting as possible.

#### 2.Case Law

Every case that goes to court is recorded in 'Law reports' which explain the facts of the case, the verdict and the legal principles the judge used to come to the decision. Some are quite lengthy and judges, politicians and academics use them to understand how the law is being applied. Research the following cases and prepare them in a table with name, date, facts, principle of law.

#### Smith v Hughes, Cheeseman v DPP, R v White, R v Blaue, R v Ireland

Case	Date	Facts	Principle
Donoghue v Stevenson	1932	Mrs Donoghue found a snail in a drink of ginger beer	Key case in negligence you must take reasonable care not to injure your neighbour

#### 3.Law in the News

Research recent news articles on any legal issue. Select one that interests you. It could be a topical legal debate e.g. Should prisoners have the right to vote? Should Britain remain in the European Union? Or a particular case that interests you E.G Potential liability of Alton Towers for negligence in the recent accident or Explain the legal issues involved, what are the areas of controversy? Explain why you chose this area and what interests you about it.

The two parts will be graded A-E. In part one we will be looking for the correct answers. In part two we will be looking for evidence of research, an understanding of the law and the skill of communicating legal principles with others.

Good Luck!